



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 155

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2009

No. 101

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

Rev. Alberto Delgado, Alpha and Omega Church, Miami, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Father, we worship Your holy name.

In the Bible You command the church to always pray and give thanks for those who are in authority.

The United States and the whole world are now experiencing difficult times; because of it, confusion and fear reign in the hearts of many.

Father, we have total confidence that You will stretch forth Your hand upon America. This great country of ours will defeat the present crisis, will enter a new level of prosperity, and will continue to be the example and the strength of the free world.

Father, right now I decree a blessing upon the Congress of the United States. I pray that Your Holy Spirit may fall upon each man and each woman present, that they may be illuminated with Godly wisdom as they enter legislation. May Your blessings be also upon their personal lives and their families.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the

point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REV. ALBERTO M. DELGADO

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure and privilege to be able to welcome Pastor Alberto Delgado to the House of Representatives. Pastor Delgado and his wife, Mariam, also a wonderful religious leader, are pillars of strength, faith, and good works in south Florida.

Their church, Alpha and Omega Church with more than 5,000 members, is a sanctuary which opens its doors to over 2,000 worshipers per service, with services in both English and Spanish. It is a place of miracles, where, as Pastor Delgado always reminds the faithful, everything is possible with faith and where the family and the word of God are revered.

The ministries of Alpha and Omega Church have already spread to other States in this great and generous land,

and to other countries as well, including Cuba, Guatemala, Argentina, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Belize. And the work of Pastor Delgado never stops.

Welcome to the United States Congress, Alberto and Mariam. It is an honor to have you here. Thank you for all that you do.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR of Arizona). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, we in this body will deliver a health care reform package and fulfill our and the President's promise to America. That makes this a special time to be in the Congress, and it is a great privilege to be a member of one of the main committees that has responsibility for this product.

Although there is still a need to improve on some measurements, because of the public plan and exchange, the improvements in Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP, the mandates for coverage, a robust benefits package, accountability care organizations and medical homes, and the provisions already included to reduce health disparities, our Nation will be a fairer and more just country and we will not only save money, but we will be a more productive and competitive nation as well.

We must not let the cost today stand in the way of our destined and future greatness. A significant investment in health care will reap savings in the not-too-distant future. Let's make sure that quality, comprehensive, and culturally and linguistically appropriate

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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